

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIA-15 TRSE-00 MBFR-03

SAJ-01 SS-15 NSC-10 AF-10 RSR-01 /116 W

----- 064531

R 111125Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 246

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USMISSION NATO

USDEL MC

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

COMSIXTHFLT

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 8157

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, NATO, IT

SUBJECT: REDUCTION OF US NAVAL FORCES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

REF: A. USNATO 3742; B. USNATO 3752; C. ROME 8083; D. STATE

158822

1. DCM RAISED MATTER OF ITALIAN AIDE-MEMOIRE (REF A) WITH MILESI-FERRETTI (VICE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS), EXPRESSING OUR SURPRISE AT THE EXTRAVAGANT LANGUAGE CONTAINED THEREIN, PARTICULARLY THE REFERENCES TO TROOP REDUCTIONS AND MBFR, AND OUR CONCERN THAT THE GOI HAD APPARENTLY MADE THE DECISION TO TAKE UP THE MATTER IN NATO FORA. DCM EXPRESSED OUR WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS BILATERALLY ANY REAL PROBLEMS THE ITALIANS HAD AND ASKED IF MILESI COULD PROVIDE ANY ELABORATION ON THE POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS WHICH LED TO SUBMISSION OF AIDE-MEMOIRE.

2. MILESI ADMITTED HE HAD NOT SEEN THE AIDE-MEMOIRE, SAID

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HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH AFTER LOOKING INTO THE SITUATION. HE LATER

TELEPHONED TO SAY (IN STRICT CONFIDENCE) THAT AIDE-MEMOIRE HAD BEEN WRITTEN IN MOD. FOLLOWING BETTINI-RUMSFELD CONVERSATION IN BRUSSELS, BETTINI HAD REPORTED THAT US WAS WILLING TO SEND HIGH-LEVEL MILITARY TEAM TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEM IN ROME OR BRUSSELS. FOREIGN MINISTER MORO HAD SUBSEQUENTLY INFORMED MINISTER OF DEFENSE TANASSI THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WAS IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING US OFFER OF HIGH-LEVEL MILITARY BRIEFING. THE FARNESINA WAS NOW AWAITING TANASSI'S REPLY. IN THE MEANTIME, BETTINI HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED NOT TO PURSUE THE MATTER FURTHER IN NATO FORA. MILESI-FERRETTI SAID HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH US WHEN HE HAD A REPLY FROM THE MOD AND WE COULD THEN DECIDE ON THE DETAILS OF FURTHER CONSULTATIONS. WE INDICATED AGREEMENT WITH THIS PROCEDURE. VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NAVAL FORCES, NAVAL CAPABILITIES, TROOP REDUCTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 AUG 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS VOLPE  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** ROME  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730843/aaaabfjs.tel  
**Line Count:** 74  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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